



County Administrative Office Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Director

February 27, 2017

The Honorable Richard Bloom, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee, Sub 3
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 94249-0050

Re: ITEM 0263 – Increased Funding for OHV Grants: Support Governor's Budget

Dear Assemblyman Bloom:

San Bernardino County requests your support for increased funding of the Off-Highway Vehicle Trust Fund, as included in the Governor's proposed 2017-18 budget.

Under existing law, the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Act of 2003 (act) provides for the acquisition, operation, and funding of state off-highway vehicular recreation areas and trails, establishes the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission and the Division of Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation within the Department of Motor Vehicles, and provides a grant program for, among other things, acquisition, administration, maintenance, and operation of areas and facilities associated with the use of off-highway motor vehicles.

San Bernardino County is the largest county geographically in the lower 48 and includes a huge portion of the Mojave Desert, as well as expansive areas of the San Bernardino and Angeles national forests. OHV recreation is a major activity in our County, with an estimated \$70 million economic impact. Our Sheriff's Department has received significant funding from the program for OHV education and enforcement.

The OHV grant program, derived from fees paid by the OHV community, has successfully supported multiple OHV programs. As OHV use expands, but riding areas are reduced due to urban growth and increasingly restrictive public land use designations, it is imperative to maintain a sustainable funding source to ensure safe and environmentally responsible OHV use.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support the Governor's budget proposal on OHV funding. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov.

Sincerely,

ROBERT A. LOVINGOOD
First District Supervisor
Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

c: San Bernardino County Delegation

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